REGIUM DONUM (CLONMEL).

CARLTON CLUB.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 15 May 1848;—*for*,

COPIES "of the ORDER to the Government Agent in *Ireland*, Dr. *Cooke*, to withhold the REGIUM DONUM from the Congregation of *Clonmel*, in connexion with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and of any CORRESPONDENCE between the *Irish* Government and Dr. *Cooke* on the subject, between the 1st day of August and the 31st day of December last:"

"Of any CORRESPONDENCE between the said Congregation of *Clonmel* and the *Irish* Government, since the 1st day of December last, or between the Presbytery of *Cork* and the *Irish* Government since same Date:"

"And, of the ANNUAL CERTIFICATE from said *Clonmel* Congregation, received and passed by the *Irish* Government in April 1847, and included in the Parliamentary Estimates for the past Year."

COPIES of the ORDER to the Government Agent in *Ireland*, Dr. *Cooke*, to withhold the REGIUM DONUM from the Congregation of *Clonmel*, in connexion with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and of any CORRESPONDENCE between the *Irish* Government and Dr. *Cooke* on the subject, between the 1st day of August and the 31st day of December 1847.

—NIL.—

Dublin Castle, June 1848.

T. N. Redington.

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE between the Congregation of *Clonmel* and the *Irish* Government, since the 1st day of December 1847, or between the Presbytery of *Cork*.

COPY of a LETTER from *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq., to *T. N. Redington*, Esq., Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

Sir,

Dublin, 23 December 1847.

KNOWING the multiplicity of your engagements at present, I deem it right to aid your remembrance of what I, and the other members of the deputation who had the honour of waiting on you yesterday, stated by the written abstract of the case. The congregation of Clonmel has been for some years in regular receipt of Regium Donum; the quarter's gale due on 29 September last was not paid. On inquiring the reason of the Government Agent, Dr. Cooke he referred us for the reason to the Government. The congregation having been duly certified by the Presbytery of Cork to consist of more than 12 families, or 50 individuals, and to have paid 46 *l.* stipend, we can conceive no reason for the withholding of the bounty, except our not having replied to a note of Mr. George Mathews. This we would not allow our minister to do, in consequence of previous letters of that gentleman of an offensive character, which we have submitted to you. Had Mr. Mathews stated that he was directed to write by the Government, an answer would have been given, but his letter had no more appearance of being official, than those he had been in the habit of writing.

We respectfully request an explicit statement of the grounds on which the bounty has been withheld, not only for the sake of the minister and congregation of Clonmel, but for that of our entire Church, who have a deep interest in this

affair,

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affair, inasmuch as it touches the rights and privileges of all. We request your reply will be communicated to us personally, at the earliest hour that will meet your convenience.

I have, &c.
on behalf of the Deputation,
(signed) *Wilson Kennedy.*

COPY of a LETTER from *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq. to *T. N. Redington*, Esq.

Sir, Dublin, 28 December 1847.

I HOPE you will not think that I and the other members of the deputation that are to wait on you this day at half-past four o'clock, on the part of the Clonmel Presbyterian Congregation, have submitted to so much trouble themselves, or that they would trouble you on a matter of mere money. The congregation of Clonmel is small, but respectable, and are both able and willing to support their Minister, should the Regium Donum be extended on terms to which they could not honourably submit. We seek no favour; we demand a right. If anything has been done justly to cause a forfeiture of the bounty, let it be withdrawn; if no such thing has been done, let the proper amend be made for causelessly withholding it. Since the first grant of Regium Donum, the congregation have complied with all the conditions on which it is bestowed, so far as they understood them. They forwarded for years the very same returns as they did in their last, and no objection was made to them. The bounty was paid for a quarter after the last return was forwarded; then it was withheld, without complaint, investigation or even notice; a thing unexampled, as we believe, not only in the history of our Church, but even in the case of the meanest pensioner of the State. We cannot, we do not believe the Government to have authorized, or to have been even cognizant of such an act; we neither accuse nor suspect them of it, but we respectfully demand, not only for our own sakes, but that of the Church generally, whose rights we conceive have been assailed through us, that full inquiry shall be made, and that we be explicitly informed, 1st., on whose interference or authority our Regium Donum was withheld; and 2d, the grounds on which it was withheld. Begging that you will give us this information at the interview we are to have the honour of having with you to-day,

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wilson Kennedy.*

COPY of a LETTER from *T. N. Redington*, Esq., to *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq.

Sir, Dublin Castle, 31 December 1847.

IN reference to your letters of the 23d and 28th instant, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to state, that the non-issue of bounty to the Minister of Clonmel has arisen from the certificate not specifying the number of families belonging to the congregation.

This year it became especially necessary to obtain such information for a Return* called for by Parliament, which was presented incomplete as regarded the Clonmel congregation. A blank form of certificate is now enclosed, and, on its being sent here, filled up, in the same manner as the certificate of every other Presbyterian congregation in Ireland, the bounty will be at once issued to the Minister as usual.

I am, &c.
(signed) *T. N. Redington.*

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* The Return here referred to is erroneously stated to have been called for by Parliament. It was printed in the summer of 1847, with the view of being presented to both Houses, and until now I was under the impression that it had actually been laid before Parliament. *T. N. R.*

COPY

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COPY of a LETTER from *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq., to *T. N. Redington*, Esq.

Sir, Clonmel, 7 January 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 31st ultimo, which awaited my return to Clonmel, and am instructed to say in reply, that the Minister and congregation of Clonmel are prepared now, as at all times, to give Her Majesty's Government every information in their power as to the state of this congregation, or upon any other subject; and in no instance have we ever neglected to make any return required of us. But we trust that Her Majesty's Government do not imply that the payment of Regium Donum is contingent upon our acceding to whatever orders or inquiries may be made, as such condition would necessarily compromise the spiritual independence and privileges of our ministers and of the Church collectively.

Permit us to observe, that the certificate required by the rules was forwarded from this congregation in April last, duly filled up, in the same manner as in former years; that no objection was ever made, or amendment required, and that upon this certificate, our congregation was included in the Parliamentary Estimates, and the Regium Donum for the present year was paid up till that due on the 1st of October last. It appears by Dr. Cooke's letter of the 16th ultimo, that, previous to issuing the Regium Donum for the quarter ended 30th September, he received directions from the Castle to withhold the bounty from the Minister of this congregation till further orders. For the space of three months it has been so withheld, without inquiry or complaint having been ever made, or even notice given to us, either by the Government or the agent of the Church. At the first interview which the deputation from this congregation had the honour of having with you on the 22d December, you were so kind as to inform us, that the Government knew nothing of the matter. At a subsequent interview on the 28th, it appeared that your attention had been directed to the two signatures to the certificate from the congregation as being the same, thereby casting doubts, not only on the correctness but the genuineness of the document. We were enabled to convince you, from the printed minutes of the General Assembly, that the Rev. John Dill was returned as both Moderator and Clerk of the Cork Presbytery for that year, and consequently should sign the certificate in his double capacity. It appeared strange to us, that while all the other members of the Cork Presbytery had received their Regium Donum, signed in the same manner, the congregation of Clonmel should alone have been singled out for non-payment. In your letter of the 31st ultimo, you are pleased to state, "that the non-issue of bounty to the Minister of Clonmel has arisen from the certificate not specifying the number of families belonging to the congregation; this year it became specially necessary to obtain such information for a Return called for by Parliament, which was presented incomplete as regarded the Clonmel congregation." We have explained, upon the first point, that the certificate for this year corresponded exactly with the unquestioned certificates which were always sent from this congregation; and that upon this certificate, which was never objected to, the Regium Donum for the present year was paid up till the 1st of October last, when it was stopped without our knowledge. The congregation was certified to consist throughout said year of more than 12 families, or more than 50 individuals, which is in accordance with the letter and spirit of the rule. We understood these rules as requiring a *bonâ fide* congregation, but not an accurate annual census of all the Presbyterian congregations in Ireland. We submit that it would be impracticable to certify "that throughout said year the congregation has consisted of a definite number of resident Presbyterian families or individuals," as, by reason of removals, deaths, and changes, there are no three months throughout the year in which a congregation consists of exactly the same number.

To make our claim still more urgent, we beg to state, that our Minister being "appointed prior to the 1st of January 1839," is entitled, by the rules, to the regular payment of bounty during his incumbency, even were the congregation not able to comply with all the conditions, which however they have.

We were not aware that a return of the number of families belonging to the Presbyterian Church was called for by Parliament this year. No notice of such return was ever communicated to this congregation; and, as we would deeply regret being implicated in the charge of having our Regium Donum withdrawn in consequence of our non-compliance with a Parliamentary Order, I am instructed respectfully to request, that you will have the goodness to inform us of the date

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and terms of the return to which you refer. We are aware that a Return was ordered by the House of Commons of a correspondence between the Moderator of the General Assembly and the Irish Government, in reference to the desired suspension, for the year 1846–47, of the rule requiring 35 *l.* from each congregation.

We respectfully request that Her Majesty's Government will be pleased to withdraw the order which the agent, Dr. Cook, states he has received, to withhold the bounty from this congregation. We are prepared to return the number of families and individuals belonging to the congregation; but we trust that we shall not be required to do anything at present which might imply that Government had withheld the Regium Donum because of some imputed delinquency in the conduct or character of our Minister, or because we made no reply to an indefinite, private note, signed George Mathews, which you informed us was non-official, and that it did not require any answer from us, while at the same time we submitted to you efficient reasons for not holding any correspondence with that gentleman.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Wilson Kennedy.*

Copy of a LETTER from *T. N. Redington*, Esq., to *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq.

Sir, Dublin Castle, 15 January 1848.

With reference to your letter of the 7th instant, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, that no other information is required from the Clonmel congregation as a condition of its Minister receiving Royal Bounty, than has been already furnished by every other congregation of the General Assembly; all that is wanted is the number of families belonging to the congregation certified in the necessary manner.

The application of the General Assembly to receive Royal Bounty this year without the congregational payment of 35 *l.* stipend, rendered necessary a return of the number of families, and the amount of stipend in every congregation, and formed part of the documents referred to in the Parliamentary Order of 6th July last, which has been completed in every instance except that of Clonmel.

With respect to your observation that as the Minister of Clonmel was endowed prior to the 1st of January 1839, he is entitled to his bounty without fulfilling the requisite conditions, his Excellency desires me to state, that upon applying to the Presbytery you will learn that an annual certificate, showing the actual condition of the congregation, is required by the regulations from every congregation, whether the Minister was endowed prior to that date or subsequently.

All correspondence with Government respecting Bounty is conducted through the Moderator of Presbytery, or of the General Assembly, and not with members of any congregation, and should further correspondence take place on this subject, it will have to be carried on by either of these ecclesiastical functionaries.

I am, &c.

(signed) *T. N. Redington.*

Copy of a LETTER from *Wilson Kennedy*, Esq., to *T. N. Redington*, Esq.

Sir, Clonmel, 22 January 1848.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, in which you say that all further correspondence on this subject will have to be carried on by either "the Moderator of Presbytery, or of the General Assembly." It is much to be regretted that this rule was not observed in the present case. It is by the Presbytery that the returns are certified on which the bounty is given, and had reference been made to the Moderator of Presbytery before withdrawing the Regium Donum of the Clonmel congregation, all the annoyance that has been since experienced would doubtless have been prevented. The matter, as you direct, will be brought before the Courts of our Church, but in the meantime I am instructed to lay before Her Majesty's Government, more fully than has yet been done, the sentiments of the congregation on the entire subject.

The

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The annual return required from each congregation was made by the congregation of Clonmel in April last, in precisely the same way, and with the same fulness as it had been made in every previous year. It was certified by the Presbytery exactly as every former return, and was duly forwarded to the Government. No objection was made to it, as no objection had ever been made to any of the previous returns. On the contrary, the completeness of all our returns was recognized by the uniform payment of Regium Donum upon them. This was the case even with regard to our last return, to which objection is now made, for on this very return our congregation was included in the Parliamentary Estimates of the present year, and the bounty paid from the 1st of April until the 1st of July. It was only in December that it was declared by the Government Agent, Dr. Cook, to have been ordered to be withheld "till further orders." No reason was given, no complaint was made, no inquiry instituted, not even the slightest intimation given from any quarter, either to the Presbytery or to the congregation, or to Mr. Dill himself; and we might have remained ignorant of its withdrawal to the present moment, had application not been made to Dr. Cook. In the month of August last, Mr. Dill did indeed receive a non-official note signed George Mathews, asking for a return of the number of families in this congregation, and subsequently another note in the same hand-writing, but without any signature. These being private letters, we did not feel at liberty to reply to them. From a previous correspondence (which we submitted to you) with that gentleman, we felt that it would not be prudent or proper in Mr. Dill to reply to them, and advised him not to do so. You were pleased to state to the deputation that they were non-official, and did not require any notice from us, and that you thought it might be better if all Presbyterian correspondence were in future carried on with yourself. Under these circumstances, surely before such an extreme step being taken as the withdrawal of our bounty, we ought to have had, through some channel, notice given to us. Our return was, according to our judgment, all that was required by the published rules, and the payment of our Regium Donum upon exactly similar returns for several years, fully warranted us in construing it to be complete and satisfactory. Even were it not so, had we not reason to expect we should be informed thereof previous to the infliction of such a severe and unprecedented penalty, whose weight is not to be estimated by its pecuniary amount (though in a season of such distress it is no small matter to a minister, who has not only to support a family, but to contribute to those who are famishing around him, to have his means of subsistence withdrawn), but by the suspicion it is fitted to cast on his character and that of his congregation, and the indignity and injury it offers to the Presbytery and the whole Church. When our deputation first waited on you, you stated that Government knew nothing of the matter, and we had abundant reason for knowing this to be the fact.

We were most anxious to preserve Her Majesty's Government from the odium of such a transaction, by having it laid upon its real author. We deeply regret that the Government has not by its own authority enabled us to do so, but still we believe that we will best testify our respect for the Government, as well as for the cause of justice, by relieving them, so far as we can, from the responsibility of this act, and placing it upon Mr. George Mathews; and we do this upon the testimony of Mr. Mathews himself, as we are in possession of documentary evidence to prove, that in presence of credible witnesses Mr. Mathews boasted that "he had ordered the Regium Donum to be stopped," and we hold similar evidence to prove that he ordered it to be stopped subsequently to, and in consequence of our not replying to his private note already referred to. We would be glad, both for the sake of our Church and of the Government, were we able to say that this is a solitary instance in which Mr. Mathews has thus employed the name or power of the Government.

It appears from what you state, that the only condition of our bounty being restored, is our making an alteration in our annual certificate, which was passed in April last. It pains us exceedingly to decline compliance with any demand of the Government, not so much in consequence of the dread of the penalty under which that demand is made, but because we deem it our duty to render submission to the "powers that be," and would feel this duty a pleasure towards our present rulers, for whom we cherish sentiments of profound respect; but were we to comply with this demand, whilst made an indispensable condition of our receiving

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Regium Donum, we believe that we would be compromising not only our own rights, but those of the whole Presbyterian Church of Ireland. We have always understood that Regium Donum is extended to all ministers appointed prior to 1839, irrespective of the amount contained in their certificates, so long as they continue in their incumbencies; and to all ministers appointed subsequent to that date, whose congregations are duly certified to consist of 12 families or 50 individuals, and to pay 35 *l.* of stipend. Now, the minister of this congregation was appointed prior to 1839; the congregation was certified last year to consist of more than 12 families, and more than 50 individuals, and to have paid more than 35 *l.* stipend. If any new condition be now required, it cannot be retrospective, but only prospective, and must be consented to by the Supreme Court of our Church before any of our congregations can, consistently with their duty to the Church, comply with it. It is manifest that if the continuance of Regium Donum to any of our ministers is made contingent on his complying with any order he may receive from the Castle, that their endowment is held by a most precarious tenure—a tenure most perilous to our independence, and fatal to our respectability as a Church, and we would deem ourselves to be the betrayers of her liberties, were we by any act of ours to endanger the forfeiture of that independence; and we beg here to add, that we consider the late proceeding towards this congregation directly at variance with the fundamental principle guaranteed to the Church in the original plan laid down by Her Majesty's Government, as contained in their letter of 26th June 1803, namely, "The Bounty once granted in no case to be withdrawn from any minister during his continuance in the charge of that particular congregation, so long as it shall please His Majesty to continue the Bounty to the body at large;" a principle absolutely indispensable to the personal independence and respectability of our ministers.

We have explained in a former letter, that the fluctuating state of our congregation did not enable us to specify a definite number as that of which it consisted during said year, and that to keep ourselves within the bounds of truth and correctness, we certified, which we could do positively, that during said year the congregation consisted of more than 12 families, and more than 50 individuals. This is all we understood the Government to require. We did not suppose them to require an exact annual census of the entire Presbyterian population of Ireland as a condition of Regium Donum, and a census made out from the annual certificates now furnished by our congregations must be incomplete and fallacious. Of this, the return lately made out by Mr. George Mathews, and published in the correspondence ordered by the House of Commons, affords sufficient evidence, as will be seen by a comparison of the census of 1834 with this document.

It is worthy of remark, that Mr. George Mathews' private note, asking for the number of families in this congregation (which it now appears he required to enable him to complete his return), is dated in the middle of August, while this return forms part of a correspondence which must have been completed prior to 6th of July, preceding the date of the order of the House of Commons for the return of this correspondence.

We have no wish for concealment; we have never refused to give the number of families in this congregation, or to amend any return objected to, and we respectfully but firmly beg leave to remind Her Majesty's Government, that our Regium Donum was ordered to be withheld three months before the number of families in this congregation was asked for; that we were kept in total ignorance of its withdrawal until by personal inquiry we obtained the information from the agent, Dr. Cook, and that our Regium Donum is still withheld, to the injury and indignity of our Minister and Church.

I am directed by the congregation of Clonmel to express to you their thanks and gratitude for the courteous readiness with which you received our deputation, and the attention which you have given to our personal and written applications in this matter.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Wilson Kennedy.*

COPY

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COPY of a LETTER from the Presbytery of *Cork* to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Tralee, 6 March 1848.

To His Excellency *George William Frederick* Earl of *Clarendon*, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.

May it please your Excellency,

I AM directed by the Presbytery of Cork, in connexion with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, to present their dutiful respects to your Excellency, and to crave your Excellency's gracious attention to the resolution contained in the subjoined minute of Presbytery, passed at its late meeting on the 1st instant. Assured of your Excellency's kind consideration,

I remain,

(signed) *H. W. Chestnut*,
Moderator, pro tem.

AT Clonmel, on the 1st day of March in the year 1848, on which day the Presbytery of Cork being met and constituted, Mr. Wilson Kennedy having appeared as a commissioner from the Clonmel congregation to complain of the withholding of Regium Donum from said congregation since the 1st of October last, and having laid before the Presbytery the correspondence on this subject with Dr. Cook, the Government agent, and with the Irish Government,—Resolved, 1st, That we consider the withholding of Regium Donum from the Clonmel congregation, without notice, inquiry or complaint, to be a great grievance, inasmuch as the annual certificate from the congregation was duly forwarded and accepted without remark or complaint on the part of Government, and the bounty paid on this certificate for the first quarter of the present year, as it had been paid on exactly similar certificates in all former years. 2d. That the Moderator be instructed to forward this expression of our opinion to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, with our dutiful respects, and humbly to request his Excellency's attention to the facts of the case. 3d. That the whole case be referred to the Dublin Synod for advice and assistance, inasmuch as it seriously affects not only the interests of the Clonmel congregation, and of our brother, Mr. Dill, but also seriously affects the interests and touches the liberties of the entire Presbyterian Church in this country.

Extracted from the Minutes by

(signed) *John Dill*,
Clerk of Presbytery.

COPY of the ANNUAL CERTIFICATE from the *Clonmel* Congregation, received and passed by the Irish Government in April 1847, and included in the Parliamentary Estimates for the past Year.

FORM of ANNUAL CERTIFICATE.

Synod of *Ulster*.
Presbytery of *Cork*.
Congregation of *Clonmel*.
Name of Minister,* *John Dill*.

WE, being respectively the Moderator and Clerk of the above Presbytery, do hereby, and on its behalf, solemnly declare and certify, for the year ending 31st March 1847:

1. That the above congregation has had a regular church or meeting-house of its own, in which it has worshipped throughout the said year.
2. That the above congregation has had, throughout the said year, an ordained minister, (who was appointed on the 9th of May 1846).

3. That

* In case of a vacancy, state the date when it occurred, and its cause.

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3. That throughout the said year, the congregation has consisted of more than twelve resident Presbyterian families, or more than fifty resident Presbyterian individuals, being *bonâ fide* constituents of the congregation.

4. That the minister has, throughout the said year, *bonâ fide* received a congregational income, composed as follows; viz.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount contributed by the resident Presbyterian families, or individuals, constituents of the congregation -	46	–	–
Aid given by the Synod - - - - - -			
Contributions from any other source, stating them -			
Annual value of any manse or minister's house - -	10	–	–
Annual value of any glebe - - - - -			
† Total Income - - £.	56	–	–

Signed, { *John Dill*, Moderator, 6th day of April 1847.
John Dill, Clerk, 6th day of April 1847.

† Whether there be a vacancy or not, it will be necessary to show, as above, that the required amount of congregational income has been paid.

N.B.—Printed Forms of Certificate will be supplied to each Presbytery.

RULES to be observed for the Endowment of Presbyterian Congregations.

I.—*Continuance of Endowment to Endowed Congregations.*

To entitle any Endowed Congregation to be placed on the Annual Parliamentary Estimate, the Presbytery to which it belongs must, through its Moderator nd Clerk, certify to the Irish Government, within 14 days after the 31st March in each year, according to the annexed form of Certificate:—

1. That the congregation has had a regular church or meeting-house of its own, in which it has worshipped during the *preceding year*.
2. That the congregation has had an ordained minister during such year.
3. That during such year, the congregation has consisted of at least 12 resident Presbyterian families—the term family being understood to comprise the head and the majority of its other members, or of 50 resident Presbyterian individuals, such Presbyterian families or individuals being *bonâ fide* constituents of the congregations. And
4. That during such year, the minister has been in the *bonâ fide* receipt of a congregational income of at least 35 *l.*

In any case where it shall appear that the required conditions have not been fulfilled for the specified period, the congregation will not be placed on the Estimate, until it has been certified that they have been again fulfilled during the *preceding year*.

In case of a subsequent non-fulfilment of the conditions within the period of 10 years, the congregation will not be replaced on the Estimate, until it has been

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been certified that they have been again fulfilled during the *two preceding years*; and,

In any case where such non-fulfilment shall have lasted for more than *two* consecutive years, the congregation will not be replaced on the Estimate, until it has been certified that the conditions have been again fulfilled, during the *three preceding years*.

The certificate must in all cases show the total amount of income actually received by the minister during such period, distinguishing its several sources—the amount derived from each of these—and the annual value of any free house or glebe.

II.—*Endowment of Unendowed Congregations.*

1st. Any unendowed congregation will be placed on the Estimate for the year commencing 1st April, on its appearing from the certificates, that the three following conditions shall have been fulfilled during the *three preceding* years; viz.

1. That the congregation has had an ordained minister during such year.
2. That during such year, the congregation has consisted of at least twelve resident Presbyterian families—the term family being understood to comprise the head and the majority of its other members, or of 50 resident Presbyterian individuals, such Presbyterian families or individuals being *bonâ fide* constituents of the congregation. And,
3. That during such year, the minister has been in the *bonâ fide* receipt of a congregational income of at least 35 *l.*, of which at least 20 *l.* has been contributed by the said Presbyterian families or individuals being constituents of the congregation.

2d. But in such case, it will be necessary that the annual certificate (form annexed) shall have been transmitted to Government for each of such years.

III.—*Exceptions.*

1st. Those congregations whose ministers, or the assistants and successors of whose ministers were appointed prior to the 1st of January 1839, will be exempted from the peremptory fulfilment of the conditions, during the incumbencies of the existing ministers.

During such period of exemption, however, the annual certificate for each congregation must show, for the satisfaction of Government, whether the several conditions have been fulfilled or not, and the actual amount of income received by the minister during the preceding year. But upon the death or removal of each of such ministers, the congregation will not be placed on the Estimate for the ensuing year, unless it appear that the conditions shall have been fulfilled during the preceding year.

2d. In case of the death or removal of any minister, the endowment will not be suspended on that ground, unless the vacancy shall have exceeded 12 months.

3d. If by reason of the poverty of the district, any instance should occur in which the Synod shall consider that the regulation which prescribes the amount of stipend ought to be *pro hac vice* dispensed with, a special report may be addressed by the synod to the Government, setting forth the facts of the case, with which the Government reserves to itself the entire discretion of dealing, as it shall think fit.

4th. It is to be clearly understood that the above rules are not to be subject to any further exceptions, and that no application for a new endowment, or for a continuance of the old endowment of any congregation, can be entertained by the Government, except it appear, that, in such case, the several required conditions shall have been fulfilled.

Dublin Castle,
June 1848.

(True Copies.)

T. N. REDINGTON.

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REGIUM DONUM (CLONMEL).

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE with the *Irish* Government respecting the withholding the REGIUM DONUM from the Congregation of *Clonmel*, in connexion with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

(*Mr. Scully.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
30 *June* 1848.

448.

Under 2 oz.

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